

that we not ask the American people or suggest the American people should do something that each of us as individuals do not do ourselves. I would also suggest that on that day we should forego any political fundraising at which food may be served or consumed; and, thirdly, I would suggest that those of us who would vote for this resolution would ask our leadership to close the Members dining room during that day. I think if we vote for this resolution, we should take it seriously. We should follow its dictates, and we should do what we are asking each of the American citizens to do. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do not have any other speakers; so I would say, in closing, I would state that I am a strong believer in the first amendment. I believe in prayer, fasting. I believe that we should pray not only for our troops but that we pray to end this conflict as quickly as it could possibly be ended and as peacefully as it could be ended. I pray that the loss of life would be diminished as much as possible and that people who are fighting from the United States as well as those from other countries and other nations would have the power of an Almighty supreme force invoked so that all of us can escape this effort with as much hope, peace, and possibility as we can. I urge support for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his very thoughtful words and comments, and just to remind Members again that the most operative words in this resolution are what we resolve, that we designate a day for humility, prayer, and fasting for all people of the United States and call on all people of the United States to observe the day as a time of prayer and fasting, to seek guidance from God to achieve a greater understanding of our own failings to learn how we can do better in our everyday activities, and to gain resolve in meeting the challenges that confront our Nation.

I believe that resolve is so in line with the spirit of what our Founding Fathers did in years before.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), who was the presenter of this resolution. I thank him for that.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his remarks and for a moment to talk about something that is so much a pattern of America's history.

If we go back to the early days of our system of republics, we go back to the time in 1774 when there was a day of fasting and prayer that was called by the Virginia House of Burgesses. That was where Patrick Henry, of course, made his famous speech.

But I think perhaps historically one of the more amazing incidents occurred the next year, 1775, where the Governor of Connecticut called his State to a time of fasting and prayer for the people of Boston and the people of Massachusetts. He coincidentally called that time of fasting and prayer for the month of April on the 18th day. As it turned out, that was the exact day that the Redcoats left Boston in search of John Hancock and the weapons that they thought were being stored in Concord, Massachusetts, and the War of Independence began.

That continues along. In fact, we had FDR, even going back to World War II time, talking about the fact that this is a war, really defending the idea that everybody should have equal rights because God gives them those equal rights. That was FDR making that comment in World War II. So we have a long history of a Nation that, when we get into an armed conflict, to turn to God and to ask His support and to humble ourselves before Him.

That actually, though, if we think about it logically, is very consistent with the very purpose and cause of what America has always been about. If we really think about what is it that is the glue that defines America, what holds us together as a people, it is that belief that there is a God who grants to all of us certain basic and unalienable rights, the right to life, the light to liberty, the right to pursue the dream that God puts into everybody's heart. So we do not believe that that is just an American right, but that is something that is for all people everywhere, and it is that belief that has propelled our soldiers onto the battlefield and made us to stand strong in the face against many different types of tyrants, just as we are even at this day.

So it is with these thoughts and these sentiments that we once again turn back to our traditions and to our history and ask and implore the Almighty God to watch over us, to remind us of our faults and places where we need to change our ways but also to strengthen us and to encourage us and help us to prevail because we do know, in fact, it is true that all people everywhere should have life and liberty and be allowed to pursue the dreams of their own hearts.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I have no other speakers, and I want to thank, before returning the balance of my time, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) again for introducing this important resolution and also the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his thoughtful comments and support.

I urge all Members to support the adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 153.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2:15 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 2:15 p.m.

□ 1416

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TERRY) at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1732

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BASS) at 5 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the remaining motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken tomorrow.

#### CONCERNING TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES HELD AS PRISONER OF WAR BY IRAQI AUTHORITIES

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 118) concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war by Iraqi authorities, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows: